

Claims:

1-14. (cancelled)

15. (new) A user interface generator comprising:

a memory configured to store user attributes of registered users in relation to identifications of the registered users;

a receiver configured to receive instructions from users which request execution of performances by an appliance, wherein each instruction contains an identification of a user who issued the instruction;

an attribute locator configured to locate user attributes of instructing users registered in the memory, using the identifications of the instructing users;

an option selector configured to determine, based on at least one of the located user attributes and the identifications of the instructing users, different operational options available to the instructing users from among operational options selectable in connection with execution of the performances; and

an object generator configured to generate different objects for the instructing users which show only the available operational options for the instructing users.

16. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein user attributes include at least one of user's address, user's date of birth, and user's favorites and unfavorites.

17. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein each operational option is associated with at least one attribute, and the option selector compares the at least one attribute associated with a respective operational option with the user attributes of an instructing user to see if any of the respective operational options is available to the instructing user.

18. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein an identification of a user identifies the user.

19. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein user attributes of a user is updatable by the user.
20. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein the attribute locator requests user attributes from a user when it cannot locate any user attributes of the use in the memory.
21. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein the receiver is configured to communicate with wireless telephones and receive the instructions from the wireless telephones.
22. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 15, wherein the user interface generator is incorporated in the appliance.
23. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 22, wherein the appliance comprises a set-top box configured to receive broadcast programs from broadcast stations.
24. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 23, wherein the performances comprise at least one of real-time viewing of a broadcast program, recording of a broadcast program, reserving recording of a broadcast program, playing back of a recorded program and downloading of a broadcast program.
25. (new) A user interface generator according to claim 24, wherein the operational options selectable in connection with execution of the performances comprise options to viewable broadcast programs, options to recordable broadcast programs, options to playback-able broadcast programs or options to downloadable broadcast programs.
26. (new) A method for generating a user interface comprising:
storing user attributes of users in a memory in relation to identifications of the users;

receiving instructions from users which request execution of performances by an appliance, wherein each instruction contains an identification of a user who issued the instruction;

locating user attributes of instructing users registered in the memory, using the identifications of the instructing users;

based on at least one of the located user attributes and the identifications of the instructing users, determining different operational options available to the instructing users from among operational options selectable in connection with execution of the performances; and

generating different objects for the instructing users which show only the available operational options for the instructing users.

27. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein user attributes include at least one of user's address, user's date of birth, and user's favorites and unfavorites.

28. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein each operational option is associated with an attribute, and determining different operational options available to the instructing users comprises comparing the attributes associated with a respective operational option with the user attributes of an instructing user to see if any of the respective operational options is available to the instructing user.

29. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein an identification of a user identifies the user.

30. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein storing user attributes of users comprising updating at least one of the user attributes.

31. (new) A method according to claim 26, further comprising requesting user attributes from a user when unable to locate any user attributes of the user in the memory.

32. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein receiving instructions from users comprises communicating with wireless telephones and receiving the instructions from the wireless telephones.

33. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein the method is implemented by the appliance.

34. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the appliance comprises a set-top box configured to receive broadcast programs from broadcast stations.

35. (new) A method according to claim 34, wherein the performances comprise at least one of real-time viewing of a broadcast program, recording of a broadcast program, reserving recording of a broadcast program, playing back of a recorded program and downloading of a broadcast program.

36. (new) A method according to claim 35, wherein the operational options selectable in connection with execution of the performances comprise options to viewable broadcast programs, options to recordable broadcast programs, options to playback-able broadcast programs or options to downloadable broadcast programs.